

SCIENCE

And Technology Program



Theme Area: Water Resources

Program Area: Social and Economics

Project No.: WR00.14

Project Title: Economic Optimization of Water Project Uses

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Abstract: This research project will include the estimation of benefit functions for a variety of water related activities, development of an optimization model that will determine the most economically efficient levels of use for different activities under various institutional arrangements, and an application of the model to the upper Rio Grande region of New Mexico. Water uses that will be included in the model are: recreation, irrigation, municipal and industrial water supplies, and wildlife/aesthetic values. Project partners include the Colorado School of Mines and a minor role for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.